GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2303
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2005
IMPLEMENTATION OF NREGS BY PANCHAYAT RAJ INSTITUTIONS
Annayyagari Shri Sai Prathap;Vallabhbhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently written to all the State Governments to gear up the Panchayat Raj institutions for implementing the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme(NREGS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action plan has been prepared for implementing the scheme; and

(d) if so, the funds provided/ proposed to be provided to the State Governments to implement the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) ?

Answer

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 has been notified on 7-9-2005. Under the Act, Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes are to be formulated by the State Governments while the Panchayati Raj Institutions are to be the `principal authorities` for planning and implementation. The Ministry of Rural Development has addressed all the State Governments on 17-11-2005 regarding undertaking several activities relating to the implementation of the Act, including detailing the roles and responsibilities of the Panchayats in planning and implementation and to initiate preparatory activities that includes the sensitization of Panchayati Raj Institutions about the provisions of the Act and their roles and responsibilities under the Act. It has been stated that this would be a large scale exercise on a recurrent basis and a training calendar should be drawn up immediately by States. Activities to be completed by the State Govts. before the notification of NREGA in their States has also been annexed to the letter.

The Act is likely to be implemented in 200 districts of the country in the first phase of its implementation. The estimated expenditure for the first phase of implementation of the Act is of the order of Rs.17,103 crores.